

York Daily News to help those two organizations with their summer jobs program that aided economically disadvantaged young people to find employment opportunities during the summer in New York City. Her first job out of Bucknell was as assistant director of public relations here in Washington for the Sheraton Hotel chain. She did press, marketing, and events planning. But she could not fight that desire to come up here on Capitol Hill, and finally she landed a job as a senior legislative assistant to Pennsylvania Congressman Gus Yatron, a Democrat of Pennsylvania.

Following President Clinton's election in 1992, the road led Gail to four intense months as deputy director of operations for the inauguration. This appointment came as a result of her diligent and enthusiastic work under Ron Brown during his leadership as head of the Democratic National Committee. She served as budget manager for the Victory '92 Campaign, convention coordinator for all operational events, and corporate fundraiser at the DNC from 1990 to 1992.

After a 5-month recreational hiatus at various beaches in the Caribbean, Gail was persuaded to join Secretary Brown and did so in the Office of Business Liaison at the U.S. Department of Commerce as a confidential aide, deputy director, and, at the time of her unfortunate death, as acting director.

Under Secretary Brown's leadership and working closely with him, Gail helped to develop U.S. business interests abroad, and in fact she was able to organize and coordinate Presidential business development missions to Russia, South America, China, Ireland, India, Turkey, the Middle East, Africa, Bosnia and Croatia. These trade missions promoted export-related activities for specific business ventures by American companies. They developed over \$44 billion in American opportunities abroad for businesses.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that the memory of Gail Dobert be recognized by this House and by the Nation at large.

#### DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA ECONOMIC RECOVERY ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentlewoman from the District of Columbia [Ms. NORTON] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as this body is aware, it has imposed a Control Board on the District of Columbia, which has become insolvent. The only reason there are not more cities in this category, of course, is because most cities have States. Nevertheless, New York, Philadelphia, and Cleveland, long before the District became insolvent, themselves became insolvent and had control boards.

Control boards, of course, are necessary, because insolvent cities cannot borrow. One of the first things such

cities need to do is to downsize their governments. That is exactly what is happening in the District of Columbia as I speak.

The fact is, however, that every other city that has become insolvent had a dual strategy or they never would have become solvent. The State provided either some direct aid, as in the case of Philadelphia, or a takeover of functions and aid, as in the case of New York City.

The District is a unique entity, and I have proposed a unique bill, the only alternative I can see, that provides any realistic way to counter the serious problems of the capital of the United States.

The unique fact about this city, of course, to face first and foremost, is that it has no State to help it in any way. The Congress, which, of course, has an obligation to help it with a payment in lieu of taxes, because we cannot build on the best land in the District, has not raised the District's Federal payment in 5 years.

Now, costs have gone up enormously in 5 years, so that means that the Federal payment is taking a loss every year that it is not raised. Congress, if anything, made it worse this year by shutting down the Government for a week and by delaying the full Federal payment for 6 months, just digging the hole deeper.

The Congress says the District cannot impose a commuter tax, even though 2 million people come in here using our facilities and walk out everyday without leaving a thin dime to support the city.

If you look at no State to help us, no Federal payment increase in 5 years, no commuter tax, you end up with no way out. It is the obligation of this body, that has constitutional responsibility for the capital of the United States and for every responsible person in this city, to think through how the recovery in fact is going to take place.

Step one is in place. The District is going to reduce its work force by 10,000 people in the next 4 years. That is a 25-percent reduction in its own city government work force. I challenge any Member to show me any government that has had that kind of reduction in so short a period of time. Indeed, the District is halfway there, because of the 10,000 positions that will go, it already has eliminated more than 5,000 of them. And yet this year, before half of the fiscal year was over, the District was down \$100 million. You do not get out of insolvency that way.

So yesterday on Tax Day, I introduced the District of Columbia Economic Recovery Act. It adopts the approach that Members on both sides of the aisle want the Congress to adopt, tax cuts for the District of Columbia, rather than direct aid; tax cuts in order to encourage middle income residents who live here now to remain, and others to come.

In other words, the city would be able to support itself the old-fashioned

way, because there would be enough middle-income taxpayers to pay for what needs to be paid for. There would be a flat 15 percent rate that would have a progressive effect on the income scale, giving substantial Federal tax reductions to D.C. taxpayers.

By the way, there is much to learn from my bill, I think, for the States. If you want to keep folks in New York, Newark, Chicago, and Los Angeles, perhaps the States should try reducing State income tax on taxpayers that remain in those cities, rather than allowing those cities to become what everybody knows they are becoming as I speak, and that is basket cases.

You cannot afford to have the proud capital of your country become a basket case. You are going to pay one way or another. Let us pay for it by letting D.C. residents keep their own money. There also would be capital gains exemption for D.C. residents who invest in the District of Columbia.

Yes, this is a unique remedy for a uniquely handicapped city. Read this morning's Washington Times editorial, "A Serious Plan for What Ails the District."

#### TRAVEL AND TOURISM IN AMERICA

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of May 12, 1995, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. ROTH] is recognized during morning business for 5 minutes.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate the Speaker for the good job he is doing in the Chair.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Thank you sir. You are not doing so badly yourself.

Mr. ROTH. Mr. Speaker, I am excited this morning. We now have 219 cosponsors to the Travel and Tourism Partnership Act. That means that we have more than a majority of the Members in the U.S. House of Representatives that have signed onto this legislation, and it is only appropriate that it happened on April 15—tax day. That is the day the American people focus on how much it costs to run their Government.

The American people know that travel and tourism is the second largest industry in America, and it is going to be the largest industry in America in only 4 years. What this means is that one out of every nine Americans who works, works in the travel and tourism industry.

Travel and tourism has only one problem: The people in the industry do not know how powerful they are politically. So the people that work in travel and tourism, that work in our hotels, motels, and our restaurants, small businesses up and down Main Street, America, they work hard and they pay their taxes. They do not do a lot of screaming. So whenever a tax bill comes to pay for more and more taxes, the American Congress puts it on the hard-working people that work in travel and tourism. Because they are so